

This Page Is Inserted by IFW Operations
and is not a part of the Official Record

BEST AVAILABLE IMAGES

Defective images within this document are accurate representations of the original documents submitted by the applicant.

Defects in the images may include (but are not limited to):

- BLACK BORDERS
- TEXT CUT OFF AT TOP, BOTTOM OR SIDES
- FADED TEXT
- ILLEGIBLE TEXT
- SKEWED/SLANTED IMAGES
- COLORED PHOTOS
- BLACK OR VERY BLACK AND WHITE DARK PHOTOS
- GRAY SCALE DOCUMENTS

IMAGES ARE BEST AVAILABLE COPY.

**As rescanning documents *will not* correct images,
please do not report the images to the
Image Problem Mailbox.**



PATENT
8564-000019/US

LER
StmH(52)
CJ
5/12/04

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: David J. KROPACZEK et al. CONF. NO.: 2280
SERIAL NO.: 10/678,171 GROUP: 3641
FILED: October 6, 2003 EXAMINER: J. Richardson
FOR: IN-CYCLE SHUFFLE

LETTER

Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
Attention: Licensing and Review

May 4, 2004

Dear Sir:

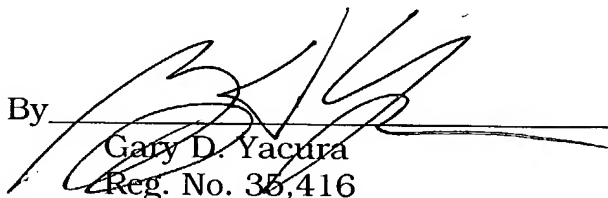
In response to the Communication mailed on April 19, 2004, please find enclosed an executed Property Rights Statement, previously filed on October 6, 2003.

Should there be any questions or comments, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Very truly yours,

HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, PLC

By


Gary D. Yacura
Reg. No. 35,416

GDY:jcp

P.O. Box 8910
Reston, VA 20195
(703) 668-8000



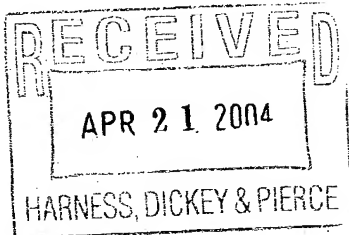
**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Patent and Trademark Office**

Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231

SERIAL NUMBER	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTY. DOCKET NO.
10/678,171	10/06/03	KROPACZEK, ET AL.	8564-000019/US

HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C.
P.O. BOX 8910
RESTON, VA 20195

45 day Rsp.
6-3-04



EXAMINER	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER

PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE
DATE MAILED: MAILED

APR 19 2004

LICENSING & REVIEW

**IF NO RESPONSE TO THIS NOTICE IS RECEIVED WITHIN FORTY-FIVE DAYS, A
FORMAL REQUIREMENT WILL BE ISSUED**

The subject matter of this application appears to:

☒ be "useful in the production or utilization of special nuclear material or atomic energy" as recited in 42 U.S.C. 2182 (Department of Energy (DOE)).

☐ "have significant utility in the conduct of aeronautical and space activities" as recited in 42 U.S.C. 2457 (National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)).

Accordingly, no patent can issue on this application unless applicant(s) file a statement (under oath or in the form of a declaration as provided by 37 CFR 1.68) setting forth (1) the full facts concerning the circumstances under which the invention was made and conceived and (2) the relationship (if any) of the invention to the performance of any work under any contract or other arrangement with the Agency(ies) noted above. On the reverse side of this form is an example of an acceptable format for this statement. The language appearing in paragraphs III and/or IV of the example *must* appear if applicant is attempting to establish that no relationship (under item 2 above) exists.

If the invention disclosed in this application was developed under a contract, grant or cooperative agreement between the Agency indicated above and a person, small business or non-profit organization and rights to the invention have been determined by specific reference to 35 U.S.C. 202 in the contract, grant or cooperative agreement, then applicant need not submit the statement described above. Instead, applicant may file a verified statement (under oath or in the form of a declaration, 37 CFR 1.68) setting forth the information required by 35 U.S.C. 202(c)(6).

IF NO STATEMENT HAS BEEN RECEIVED WITHIN FORTY-FIVE DAYS OF THE MAIL DATE INDICATED ABOVE, a formal requirement for statement will then be issued. No provision is made for extension of the statutory thirty-day period for response to the formal requirement and the penalty for failure to file an acceptable and timely statement is abandonment of the application. Therefore, applicants are strongly encouraged to submit a statement at this time in order to avoid the issuance of a formal requirement.

IT IS IMPORTANT TO NOTE that the statement must accurately represent the property rights situation of the claimed invention if and when the application is found allowable. Thus, if during prosecution before the examiner, the claimed invention is so altered or the property rights situation so changed as to impact the accuracy of a statement submitted earlier, a supplemental statement must be filed. Failure to submit such additional information where appropriate may be considered a false representation of material facts and render the patent owner vulnerable to loss of patent rights and other sanctions as set forth in the statutes. The PTO will not review allowed applications for this possibility. The responsibility for complying with the statutes rests with the applicants.

Any questions regarding this requirement should be directed to Licensing and Review at (703) 306-4194.

**PLEASE DIRECT ALL COMMUNICATIONS RELATING TO THIS MATTER TO THE
ATTENTION OF LICENSING AND REVIEW**

PATENT
Atty Docket No.: 8564-000019/US
GE Case No.: ~~24GA125761~~

24GA126751

CDY

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: David Joseph KROPACZEK et al.

Serial No: NEW APPLICATION

Filed: Herewith

For: IN-CYCLE SHUFFLE

PROPERTY RIGHTS STATEMENT

Attn: Licensing and Review

Commissioner of Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

06/04
We, **David Joseph KROPACZEK, William Earl RUSSELL II, and Mehdi ASGARI**, citizens of the United States of America, residing at Wilmington, NC respectively, declare:

1. That we made and conceived the invention described and claimed in the above-identified patent application.
2. That we made and conceived this invention while employed by Global Nuclear Fuel – Americas, LLC. That the invention is related to the work we am employed to perform and was made within the scope of our employment duties; That the invention was made during working hours with the use of facilities, equipment, materials, funds, information and services of Global Nuclear Fuel – Americas, LLC.
3. That to the best of our knowledge and belief, the invention was not made or conceived in the course of, or in connection with, or under the terms of any contract, subcontract or arrangement entered into with or for the benefit of the United States Atomic Energy Commission or its successors: Energy Research and Development Administration or the Department of Energy.

The undersigned inventors declare further that all statements made herein of his own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true and further that these statements are made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Inventor's Signature:

David Joseph Kropaczek
David Joseph Kropaczek Kropaczek *DPH*

Post Office Address:

637 Robert E. Lee Drive, Wilmington, NC 28412

Date:

10/3/2003

Inventor's Signature:

William Earl Russell II
William Earl Russell II

Post Office Address:

1044 Arboretum Drive, Wilmington, NC 28405

Date:

10/3/2003

Inventor's Signature:

Mehdi Asgari
Mehdi ASGARI

Post Office Address:

4321 Aftonshire Drive, Wilmington, NC 28412

Date:

10/03/2003